

**DOCKET NO.: HENK-0060/ H4714**  
**Application No.: 10/774,018**  
**Preliminary Amendment - First Action Not Yet Received**

**PATENT**

After the claims, please insert the following:

**Abstract**

The present invention relates compositions and methods involving hybrid  $\alpha$ -amylases derived from the  $\alpha$ -amylases of the bacteria species *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* and *Bacillus licheniformis*. In one embodiment, the hybrid  $\alpha$ -amylases are used in detergents and cleaning agents.